Conversion of roadside area into private parking area in Vasant Vihar, New Delhi

164. SHRI ANDAND PRAKASH GAUTAM:
SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) under what provision the road and the pavement near the Government Colony in Vasant Vihar, New Delhi has been converted into parking place by the Delhi Traffic Police for commercial benefit of M/s. Modern Bazar and Hotel Vasant Continental;

(b) whether it is a fact that the parking is resulting in great inconvenience to the pedestrians;

(c) whether it is also a fact that representations have been received for declaring the area as Tow Away Zone;

(d) whether it is also a fact that more and more Taxi Stands are being allowed in the area making it highly vulnerable to traffic hazards; and

(e) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what steps are being taken to keep the area safe for the pedestrians?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No parking place has been provided by Delhi Traffic Police in this area for anyone's commercial benefit. Parking place, however, has been arranged on both sides of the concerned road for the use of general public, including foreigners who come for shopping in the nearby Shopping Centre.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Two written representations have been received by the Police.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Directive issued by the Head Priest of Dawoodi Bohras to stop using bank services

165. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken note of the recent directive issued by the Head Priest of Dawoodi Bohras to his followers to stop using bank services;

(b) whether Government consider such a directive as violation of the fundamental right under the Constitution guaranteeing freedom of individual vocation; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The question of taking any steps in the matter would arise only if any individual of the Bohra community is visited upon with any social disability for dis-regard of such a directive and the aggrieved individual seeks enforcement of his rights under the Constitution. The question of constitutionality or otherwise of such a directive can be examined only by the Competent Courts. However, the Govt. of Maharashtra has been asked to look into this matter for appropriate action.

GATT negotiations at Montreal

166. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India participated in the GATT Negotiations held from December 9 to 12, 1988 at Montreal;